

Regiment killed within ten minutes. Just then the sun, which we had not seen that day, burst through the fog. We looked across the plain and saw five columns of Federal troops advancing. The first column was within one hundred yards of the railroad, where Lane's Brigade was posted. He let them advance within sixty or eighty paces and gave orders to commence firing, which they did, and it seemed that the front column melted away. The second column charged, but met the same fate at that point. But in front of Cutts' Battery, where we were, they succeeded in driving out the strong picket line in the railroad cut and commenced killing the gunners and horses. Just then General W. D. Pender came riding down his line among the hail of shot and shells, his left-hand hanging down and blood streaming down his fingers. A ball had gone through his arm between the bones. Colonel Scales bounded up out of the snow and said: "General, I see you are wounded." He said: "Oh, that is a trifle; no bone is broken. I want you to send at least two companies down to the railroad and drive those scoundrels out. They are killing Colonel Cutts' men and horses." Colonel Scales called out to Captain Ward, of Company I, and Captain Hunt, of Company C, to go. It was about two hundred yards, in a plain, open field. When we got up from our snowbeds we were so stiff we could scarcely walk, but the Yankee bullets soon made us forget that. We double-quickened right down the hill, through the shower of lead, until we were within twenty-five yards of the cut, before we fired a gun. We gave them what we had frozen in our guns and charged bayonets, and out they went. We reloaded and kept pushing them on over the first banks of the plain. We held our position until dark, when we were recalled to the brigade, which was in the woods in rear of where we had been during the day. We found the boys with good fires, warming themselves. One of my company, George Lowder, had gotten so badly frozen that he died that night. I lost four toe-nails from the cold. We had a "snack" to eat and were told that Jackson was going to take his corps, put white strips on their arms, charge through to the river and cut